(c) The reasons for shortfall / backlog of SCs / STs and OBC vacancies include *inter alia:—*

(i) Certain loss making banks had signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Reserve Bank of India which stipulated non-filling of Fresh vacancies for some period.

(ii) Non-availability of sufficient ST candidates in many States.

(iii) Difficulty encountered in getting suitable reserved category candidates for specialized posts.

(iv) Non-reporting of some selected reserved category candidates on their appointment to various posts.

(v) Introduction reservation for Other Backward Classes only from Septemeber, 1993.

(vi) 50% ceiling on the number of vacancies to be filled on the basis of reservation in any year including carried forward reservation imposed by the Supreme Court in the case of Indira Sawhney versus Union of India.

(d) Upto 1997, Special Drives were conducted by banks to weed out the past backlog of unfilled vacancies. In September 1997, Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) issued instructions that the number of vacancies to be filled on the basis of reservation in a year including carried forward reservation should not exceed 50 per cent limit. In view of this, the Special Drives in banks were discontinued. DoP and T has recently revised its instructions that the ceiling of 50 per cent on filling up of reserved vacancies would apply only on reserved vacancies which arise in the current year and backlog / carry forward reserved vacancies for SCs / STs of earlier years would be treated as a separate and distinct group and would not be subject to this ceiling. In view of this, banks are being advised to make concerted efforts to fill up the backlog vacancies.

NRIs/MNCs investment in PSUs

† 1781. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI:

SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) what is the total number of proposals received from the NRIs/MNCs for investment in PSUs selected by Government-for disinvestment;

(b) whether Government have granted permission to any NRIs/MNCs for investment so far during the current financial year;

(c) if so, what are the names of those proposals from multi-national companies and non-resident Indians which have been received so far; and

(d) what are the rules and regulations to monitor the investment of NRI/ MNCs in Public Sector Undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) At present Government has decided to disinvest in 17 PSUs and the disinvestment process with regard to these 17 PSUs is at various stages of process.

(b) During the current year from 1.4.2000 till date no disinvestment in PSUs has taken place.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Disinvestment of Government equity stake in PSUs has been through a process of open offers either in the domestic capital market by way of sale of rupee denominated shares or in the external capital market by way of issue of ADR's/GDR's representing the underlying rupee shares. Consequently for GDR/ ADR all classes/categories of foreign investors including NRI's/MNC's are entitled to purchase the disinvested shares. NRI's also have the portfolio route to the disinvested PSU share in the domestic market subject to a prescribed limit. As these have been open offers, individual proposals were neither received nor were required to be considered and cleared. In case of ADR/GDR offering, as this is reckoned as per of FDI, approval of FIPB were required is to be obtained for the ADR/GDR offering by the issuer company/PSU.

Chief Ministers submission on Financial Crisis of States

1782. SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chief Minister of States, jointly or individually submitted certain request to Government seeking certain urgent measures to find a solution to the serious financial crisis the State are facing;

(b) if so, what are the requests they have made; and